



The Asphalt Pavement Alliance is a partnership of the Asphalt Institute, National Asphalt Pavement Association, and the State Asphalt Pavement Associations.

MEDIA RELEASE

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VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WINS 2021 PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARD

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has won a 2021 Perpetual Pavement Award: By Conversion (PPA) for approximately 2.65 miles of an Appomattox Bypass Rubblization project on Route 460 in the Lynchburg District. The project opened to traffic in 2018. The contractor was Boxley Materials Company. In the award's inaugural year, this is the first PPA: By Conversion for VDOT. VDOT previously earned two PPAs: By Performance.

To qualify for this prestigious award, the pavement must be a new asphalt road constructed over an existing road that meets strict Perpetual Pavement criteria. The pavement must demonstrate the characteristics expected from long-life asphalt pavements: excellence in design, quality in construction and value for the traveling public. Engineers at the National Center for Asphalt Technology (NCAT) evaluated the nominations and validated the winners.

The award-winning section of Route 460 was constructed by Boxley over an original concrete pavement that showed signs of failure. The existing 9 inches of jointed plain concrete pavement was rubblized providing a structural base and a drainage layer. It was then paved with an asphalt overlay consisting of 4 inches of BM-25.0D + 0.8, 2 inches of IM-19.0D and then 2 inches of SM-12.5D. In addition to being designed as a long-life asphalt pavement, this project also used 26+ percent Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement (RAP) and all the mix produced was warm-mix asphalt.

This section of Route 460 meets the criteria for a PPA and will continue to serve the travelers in Va. well into the future requiring little maintenance. VDOT will be honored by Virginia Asphalt Association (VAA) and presented with an engraved crystal obelisk.

"We at the Virginia Department of Transportation are truly honored to be recognized by the Asphalt Pavement Alliance with the Perpetual Pavement Award for the Route 460 Bypass in Appomattox County," said Chris Winstead P.E., Lynchburg District Engineer, VDOT. "This major highway sees substantial traffic, and after a slow progression of joint faulting, we sought a solution that would be sustainable and perpetual. VDOT materials engineers, Don French and Robert Reid, determined the best route to take was rubblization of the existing concrete - maintaining drainage. Then came placement of a high modulus base and surface asphalt - resulting in a perpetual structure. The VDOT engineers, partners and contractors delivered. We are proud of their efforts, which symbolize VDOT's commitment to building and maintaining quality roadways, now and into the future."

“One key indicator of quality in construction is a smooth, long-life pavement,” said Amy Miller, P.E., National Director of the APA. “Long-life asphalt pavements serve the community, reduce the money needed for maintenance, and conserve raw materials, ultimately leading to a truly sustainable structure that exemplifies the triple bottom line. Asphalt roads can be engineered to last indefinitely with only routine maintenance and periodic surface renewal. Perpetual pavements use fewer natural resources and offer road owners and users what they want most – an economical, smooth pavement that serves the community for decades.”

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance is a coalition of the National Asphalt Pavement Association, the Asphalt Institute, and the State Asphalt Pavement Associations. The Asphalt Pavement Alliance’s mission is to establish asphalt as the preferred choice for quality, performance and the environment.

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The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (www.driveasphalt.org) is a partnership of the Asphalt Institute (AI), National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) and the State Asphalt Pavement Associations. The Asphalt Pavement Alliance’s mission is to establish asphalt as the preferred choice for quality, performance and the environment.

The Asphalt Institute (www.asphaltinstitute.org) is the international trade association of petroleum asphalt producers, manufacturers and affiliated businesses. AI promotes the use, benefits and quality performance of petroleum asphalt, through engineering, research, marketing and educational activities.

The National Asphalt Pavement Association (www.asphaltpavement.org) represents the interests of U.S. asphalt producers/contractors before Congress, federal agencies, and other national trade and business organizations. NAPA supports an active research program designed to improve the quality of asphalt pavements and paving techniques used in the construction of roads, streets, highways, parking lots, airports, and environmental and recreational facilities.

The State Asphalt Pavement Associations (www.sapa-inc.org) represent the interests of asphalt pavement producers and paving companies at the state and local level across the United States.